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The PC Chronicle

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Entertainment

Dan Barlo picks his top 15 for 1997

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Ambassador to Belize sworn in at PUC ceremony

Purdue Lafayette graduate and Hammond native Carlen Curiel took oath Nov. 25

BY SUMMER M. CORONADO
Entertainment Editor

The new United States Ambassador to Belize Carlen Curiel, a Hammond native, was sworn in at Purdue University Calumet at the request of Purdue University in West Lafayette. Swearing Curiel in was the honorable Judge Lorenzo Arredando of the Lake Circuit Court on Tuesday, Nov. 25.

In her acceptance speech, Curiel clearly stated that she was not a formula for success. She was not beautiful, she was not from a rich family; however, she stayed in school and learned a trade. "There are many formulas for success, rejection and failure are only temporary. If you have dreams, dream them aloud. If you have fears, face them, rule them. She states that this region offered her family opportunity and that we are people made of steel, steel that makes skyscrapers all around the world, and now we are creating education.

Curiel's credits include being a Caribbean Division Chief for the United Press International, a free-lance writer/reporter and producer for ABC News, a copy editor for the Washington Post and as a national and Foreign Desk editor for The New York Times. Curiel was also the editor of her high school newspaper the "Mortonite," as well as the Purdue Lafayette "Exponent."

When revealing the difficulties of striving for success, Curiel says who helped her through it all were her friends and family. Also, she emphasizes that no matter what we have learned it is still okay to go back home.

The ceremony opened with remarks from the Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek, Bishop, Diocese

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Photo by Summer Coronado

Carlen Curiel, left, receives a gift from an unidentified Morton high school student. Curiel has turned her newspaper expertise into an ambassadorship to the Central American country of Belize.

PUC offers HOPE Scholarship seminars

BY MARTI TRGOVICH
Staff Writer

For students like Lorrie Smith, the new HOPE Scholarship is a lifesaver.

"I just really can't get any other aid, so I decided to look into it (HOPE)," she said. "It really helps because I'm married and have three kids."

The HOPE Scholarship is a tax credit which allows students who are at least half-time and in their first two years of college to receive up to a $1500 tax refund on tuition.

PUC will offer two educational seminars regarding the HOPE Scholarship and the Lifelong Learning Scholarship, a tax credit for students who have had at least two years of college.

The seminars will be offered on Thursday, Dec. 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. in Alumni Hall on the third floor of the Student Faculty Library Center; and on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 9 to 11 a.m. in Lawshe Hall, Room 131.

A CPA from the Chicago area will present the seminars, according to Beth Pellicciotti, assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management.

"It's really an opportunity for students and their families to get good information for strategies on how they can take advantage of these scholarships," she said. "They (students) won't take advantage of this until spring of 1999, but they have to plan ahead."

Survey: Job market best in decade

More than 70 percent of employers surveyed said they planned on hiring more college graduates in 1998 than they did this year.

A booming economy, low inflation and a labor shortage will add up to lots of job opportunities and decent starting salaries for college graduates, said Camille Luckenbaugh, the NACE information director. "The unemployment rate is 4.7 percent, the lowest in 24 years," said Luckenbaugh. Because of the low unemployment rate, employers are having a harder time filling their positions with experienced employees, she added. "This has created a trickle-down effect," she said. "Employees can't find experienced employees so they're hiring new college graduates."

Overall, hiring will be up 19.1 percent for new grads, according to Job Outlook '98, the NACE's annual forecast released in November. For the report, 1,529 employers were asked to complete a survey about their hiring intentions, and 421, or 21 percent, did. Of those employers who responded, more than 25 percent said they expected to maintain current hiring levels. Only 3.1 percent of employers said they planned to hire fewer grads.

"This is the best job market in recent years," said Bradley Richardson, author of "JobSmarts: 50 Top Careers." "Companies are having a hard time finding quality employees, so they're offering more things, like benefits or other perks."

To snag qualified candidates, employers are traveling to campuses more to recruit new hires, according to the survey. More than half of the employers reported an increase in campus visits, and overall, campus visits are up 8.8 percent.

Luckenbaugh said that in the past, employers could take a "wait-and-see" approach to recruitment and often made job offers later in the recruitment season. This year, employers who wait risk coming up empty, she added. "Those who have traditionally hired from the campus are elbow to elbow with those who are turning to inexperienced candidates to round out their workforces," Luckenbaugh said.

Stiff competition isn't the only worry employers face. Preliminary data from NACE's most recent student survey show that 60 percent of 764 students responding said they would renege on a job offer if a better one came along. Most in demand are graduates with computer skills, said Luckenbaugh. Entry-level computer science and computer engineering grads can expect to collect paychecks that are 6.3 percent higher than last year. Computer science majors will earn an average of $38,475 annually, while computer engineers will pull down an average starting rate of $39,593.

However, the biggest anticipated increase in starting salaries is expected to be for liberal arts majors, who will see their starting pay increase an average of 6.5 percent. While the $28,875 starting salary of the average liberal arts major lags considerably behind "in- demand" disciplines such as engineering and computer science, the size of the increase "shows just how strong demand is [for new hires] across all industries," said Luckenbaugh. Job opportunities for liberals arts majors are most plentiful with insurance and merchandising firms, she added.

Business grads can anticipate a starting salary of $29,784, a 5.5 increase from last year's salary. These grads, like many liberal arts students, will find jobs openings in insurance and merchandise

See Jobs, Page 3

Findings from the *NACE survey:*

- Despite the strong demand from employers for graduates with computer science training, statistics from the U.S. Department of Education show the number of graduates earning computer science degrees has dropped 43 percent from 1986. At the same time, the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a 70 percent growth in computer and data processing jobs by 2005.
- The South leads all other regions in job market growth. Employers there said they will hire 27.3 more new graduates than they did last year. The West came in second, with employers reporting a 22.8 percent increase in new hires. Midwest employers plan to hire 16.2 percent more grads. Although the Northeast lags behind all other regions, employers still anticipate hiring 10 percent more new grads than in 1996-97.
- The market also is strong for two-year graduates. Fifty-four percent of respondents indicated that they hire two-year degree graduates. The most hotly recruited students are engineering technology and computer science students.
- The Internet is growing in popularity as a recruitment tool among employers. This year more employers ranked Internet job postings above newspaper advertising in a list of their favorite recruiting tools.

Mystery finally solved

Cownapping culprit confesses after 32 years

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (CPS) -After 32 years, the mystery of who put the cow on the rotunda's roof has been solved at the University of Virginia.

The culprit, Alfred R. Berkeley III, who now is president of the Nasdaq Stock Market, says he confessed because he felt guilty for masterminding the infamous prank.

Berkeley came clean at an alumni banquet held in May. He also recently reimbursed a former local sheriff $1,755 for the cost of the unsuccessful1965 investigation.

Berkeley was one of five students who squeezed a 250-pound heifer through a window and up a spiral staircase to the 60-foot-high rotunda.

What was supposed to be a joke took a bad turn, however, when authorities had to tranquilize the animal to get it back down the staircase. The skittish heifer died, and authorities at the time said the combination of the trauma and the tranquilizer proved too much for the poor animal.

Local residents were angered by the incident and demanded an investigation be launched to catch the students behind the deed.

Berkeley told his fellow alums that he was only trying to top the pranks his father did while attending the university.

Women's Basketball Saturday vs. Kendall College 2 p.m. in the gym...The Chronicle will return Jan. 12

Student Government Update

Finals

Finals are here and there are some things you should know.

- No student should be required to take more than two exams on the same day.

- In the event that more than two exams are scheduled on the same day, the student should consult the instructors, and then elect which of the exams are to be taken at the scheduled time(s). Saturday of the exam period may be used for conflict resolution.

The Council of Faculty Delegates urges faculty members to avoid scheduling exams the week preceding final exams. No exam should be given during that week which would require more than a normal class period. Comprehensive final exams are prohibited except during the regular final exam period.

This is good information to know if you need to appeal a grade next semsester.

Student Discount Card

The Student Government Association will be selling Student Discount Cards for $10.00 beginning in January. The cards will be valid for one year, and will have many money saving specials for students, staff, and faculty on them from local business around the Purdue University Calumet Campus. The cards will feature items ranging from food to clothing. More details are forthcoming, if you have any questions please call the Student Government office.

Have a wonderful Holiday

All the members of Student Government wish all of you a very safe and happy holiday season. We will see you back at Purdue on Monday, January 12, 1998. Also, do not forget payment for spring semester is due Monday, January 5, 1998. If you registered during open registration payment is due Friday, January 16, 1998.

Talk to Us

Student Government needs your input. What things would you like to see different or improved in Spring 1998. Let us know. Feel free to call us at (219) 989-2394 or stop by C-324G.

We Are YOUR Student Government

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Jason Spencer, senator
Dave Spott, senator
Amarachi Igboegwu, assistant to the president
Bruce Kimbrell, assistant to the president

At a glance

around campus

Psi-Chi/Psychology final semester meeting

The final meeting of 1997 for the Psi-Chi/Psychology Club will take place Saturday, Dec. 13 at 3:30 p.m. in PORT-100.

Running club canceled

Due to lack of interest, the running Club has been canceled for the remainder of the semester. Provided that there is interest, the running club will resume in the spring.

Sigma Lambda Beta seeking new members

Are you determined to succeed? Do you wish to develop your leadership skills? The Brothers of Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity Inc. strongly believes in the principles of brotherhood, scholarship, service, and cultural awareness. We are looking for motivated men to carry on the tradition. For more information about Sigma Lambda Beta contact Jose Magallanes, Chapter President, at 473-0298.

Overeaters Anonymous to meet

Do you eat to escape from worries of troubles? Does your eating behavior make you or others unhappy? If you have a problem with food, we welcome you. Attend the Overeaters Anonymous meeting on Thursdays in PORT-202 at 5 p.m. There are no dues, fees or weigh-ins. For more information contact Deborah Wade at 989-2366.

Women to Women seeking new members

Women to Women is looking for new members. Anyone interested should come by the Women to Women office in SFLC-324C or stop by the Office of Student Activities in SFLC-343 for more information.

Chronicle announces new meeting schedule

The Chronicle has issued the new meeting times for the fall semester. Business and Advertising Department will meet Mondays at 12:30 p.m. and 6 p.m., Production Department will meet Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m., News Department will meet Mondays at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., and Tuesdays at 1 p.m. If you are interested in becoming part of the staff, fill out an application and attend one of the meetings. Stop by the office in SFCL-344H or call 989-2547.

PCIA looking for members

Purdue Club for International Affairs is looking for members and potential officers. The goals of this student club are to increase global awareness among members, facilitate international travel and study opportunities, conduct social activities to introduce students to different aspects of other cultures, make new friends, have fun, and party. For more information please contact Gideon Falk at 989-2603 or 989-2388.

Fellowship announcement

Fellowships in Residence at the Smithsonian Institute are now available. Awards are based on merit. Senior fellowships, Post-doctoral and Pre-doctoral, plus ten week Graduate Student fellowships are available. For more information and materials contact Office of Fellowships and Grants, Smithsonian Institution, Desk P at (202) 287-3271. Application materials also available at http://www.si.edu/research+study

Quote of the week

'Begin at the beginning...and go on till you come to the end: then stop.'

-Lewis Carroll 1832-1898

The Chronicle

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT THE CHRONICLE

Police Blotter

11/30: Police received a report from a lab assistant who reported criminal mischief to the men's restroom in the Gyte building, G-75.

11/26: Police responded to a traffic accident in the P-1 parking lot, north of the Gyte building. Property damage occurred.

11/25: Police responded to a hit-and-run traffic accident in the P-1 parking lot, north of the Gyte building. Property damaged occurred.

Police received a report from a student claiming the theft of her maroon 1989 Pontiac Grand AM, license plate number 45A5503. The car is alleged to have been stolen from the P-9 parking lot, south of the Student Faculty Library building.

11/25: Police received a report from a student who claims he or she has been harassed since the beginning of the semester. The male student was told to leave the complainant alone, and he agreed to do so.

11/22: Police received a report from a student who claimed her purse was stolen from the lounge in the Gyte building. The purse was located later in the woman's restroom with $27.00 missing.

11/19: Police received a report from a staff member of a student throwing rocks outside of Lawshe Hall. The student was escorted to the Dean of Students Office, where he was suspended from campus until a hearing date on Nov. 24, 1997.

11/18: Student reported to police that his vehicle was stolen from the P-1 parking lot. He later recanted his story, stating his vehicle was stuck in an area of Hammond.

11/ 16: Police received a report of criminal mischief to a student vehicle, which included scratches on the paint, while parked in the P-1 parking lot, south of the Gyte building.

11/13: Police received a report from a student, complaining of being harassed and threatened by a male acquaintance in the Library. The male was not a student. Police escorted him off campus and told him not to return.

11/12: Police received a report from a student, complaining of receiving a harassing letter on her vehicle from an unknown male. The vehicle was parked on campus when the letter was discovered.

11/6: Police received a complaint of vehicular damage in the P-1 parking lot north of the Gyte building.

11/5: Police received a report from a student of the theft of a back pack and its contents from the game room of the Student Faculty Library building.

Police received a report from staff member who reported criminal mischief to two stalls in the men's restroom, located in Porter Hall, E-115 and E-208.

11/4: Police received a report of a vehicular accident in the P-1 parking lot, north of the Gyte building.

Police received a report of a vehicular accident in the P-1 parking lot, south of the Student Faculty Library building.

Season's 'Hot' holiday wish list

ERIC J. SCHWIER
Entertainment Writer

Illustration by Eric J. Schwier

Each year there are those hard to find 'hot' items on everybody's Christmas list. Who can forget the madness for Cabbage Patch Kids years ago? There is always something that eludes even the most persistent shopper. Nobody can predict what will be sought after, and it still amazes me what people will pay for these things. The only problem is finding what everyone else is looking for.

Most of the new items are not too shocking if you compare them to years past. Speaking of the past, some of those things are still 'hot' this year. Almost everyone's Christmas list for '96 included the Tickle Me Elmo for the bargain price of $40. This time around, Elmo is still selling but not quite as frantically. The manufacturers are also better prepared. In addition to the little wiggling, giggling creature, they have added a Cookie Monster, Big Bird, and Ernie for only $20 a piece. And since we are discussing Ernie, did you know that the Sing -N- Snore Ernie may be the hottest item this year. He sings, he snores, and he is very cute in his pj's. But, after testing some children in day care for his liability and lasting fun, he didn't do so well. After about two days, he just laid around until he was picked up and moved to the floor. So with the $20 price tag, Ernie may not be the most practical item.

Now lets talk about Beanie Babies. They're cute, cuddly and tiny. But the prices are anything but small. You can find them in almost any Hallmark shop or gift store. You can even find them in the most unlikely places such as a record store. They were meant to be a toy that children could afford with allowances or as small gifts. Originally they were priced at $5, and that wasn't too bad. But if you look around, you will see that the hard to find or retired beanies are priced at a range from $10 to $2,000! The company that makes them, Ty Inc., was unprepared for the demand last Christmas, but they seem to be better off this year. That doesn't mean they are easy to find. The stores will still sell out within days after each shipment. The winning aspect is that these animals are for boys or girls. The funny thing is that adults seem to like them better.

Some of the other popular toys and their prices include: Star Wars toys for $5-50, Little Mermaid for $7-15, Barney toys and dolls for $3-50, Power Rangers and Beetle Borgs for about $7, Barbie's range from $10-$100, Winnie the Pooh (clothes, toys, knick-knacks) and even Sabrina, The Teenage Witch for $12. Any of these toys can be inexpensive, but there are some that are anything but cheap.

If you want something fun and educational, then the Magna Doodle Learning Bus is great. For about $20, it has patterns to help children learn to write letters and numbers. Each pattern allows the child to trace the letter and after the pattern is removed, it leaves a picture that begins with the letter to which it is attached. The X-V Racers Race Track by Mattel is one of the best Hot Wheels tracks ever! If you stick the car on this accelerator pad and set it on the track, the car will actually go around the track through three loops at least two or three times and it won't fall off!! Since all kids experienced race tracks that cars always fly off of, you know this is a great gift.

If you are shopping for someone a bit older, there are some popular things for adults too. If music is what they are in to, then try checking out some of the new releases like: Garth Brooks, Celine Dion, ChumbaWumba, Yanni, Erykah Badu, Metallica, Spice Girls, Shania Twain, or Harry Connick Jr. Being that they are new, a lot of stores are running sales on them right now. You can find them at Target, Walmart or Circuit City for $10-13. Since, adults don't usually have 'hot' lists like children, there aren't too many things to be listed.

Shop around but don't wait too long. The 'hot' items don't last. If you see something you know is big, then buy it before it is too late. I hope this list helps you out a little bit. Unfortunately, I still have no idea what I am buying. Nor do I have any idea what Santa is getting me this year. Do you know what he is getting you?

Merry Christmas and have a safe and fun holiday!!

Jobs

Continued from page 1

companies.

The salary increases for 1998 are in sharp contrast to 1992, the year in which the NACE recorded the worst job market of the decade. Then, 41 percent of the majors surveyed showed a decrease in starting salaries, said Luckenbaugh. Whether employers are looking for computer programmers, accountants or retail managers, most say they are interested in hiring candidates who have integrity, are motivated and who are good communicators. Employers also said they don't have time to spoon-feed new employees.

"Employers said they want someone who has honesty, motivation, teamwork and interpersonal skills. They also want someone who has done research on the company and is able to ask intelligent questions about it during an interview," Luckenbaugh said.

Even though 1998 promises to be a job-seeker's market, Richardson advised students to remain flexible with their job choice.

"Don't pigeonhole yourself; don't limit yourself," he said. "You're not locked into any industry if you remember that there are common positions in a multitude of industries."

Other findings from the NACE survey include:

■ Despite the strong demand from employers for graduates with computer science training, statistics from the U.S. Department of Education show the number of graduates earning computer science degrees has dropped 43 percent from 1986. At the same time, the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a 70 percent growth in computer and data processing jobs by 2005.

■ The South leads all other regions in job market growth. Employers there said they will hire 27.3 more new graduates than they did last year. The West came in second, with employers reporting a 22.8 percent increase in new hires. Midwest employers plan to hire 16.2 percent more grads. Although the Northeast lags behind all other regions, employers still anticipate hiring 10 percent more new grads than in 1996-97.

■ The market also is strong for two-year graduates. Fifty-four percent of respondents indicated that they hire two-year degree graduates. The most hotly recruited students are engineering technology and computer science students. * The Internet is growing in popularity as a recruitment tool among employers. This year more employers ranked Internet job postings above newspaper advertising in a list of their favorite recruiting tools.

– College Press Service

Belize

Continued from page 1

of Gary, followed by Carmen Lomellin. Lomellin, a close friend of Curiel, also works at the White House.

In her opening speech, she spoke of the history between her and Curiel. Both attended the same elementary school, "Our Lady of Guadalupe," that consisted of double classrooms and very few children. More than 20 years later, they were reunited while working in Washington. Lomellin informed the audience that, "Not many Hispanics are in the White House, so when we saw each other we bonded immediately." She went on to say that it was wonderful to see someone she went to school with working for the White House and not cleaning it.

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The power of words: tools and weapons

We all need to be more mindful of what we are really saying and choose our words carefully. It is difficult sometimes to understand the power of our words. We do not always stop and think about what we say and the effects it will have on other people.

At the source of the recent racial incident on campus, words were used as a weapon and grew out of anger. Regardless of the situation, thought needs to be given to what will result from our words. There is no excuse for what was said. It is easy to snap and say things we may otherwise not and much harder to deal with the real problem at hand. We need to think about the point of view of the other person and the consequences of what we say.

At the Rally Against Racism a few weeks ago, the power of words was again illustrated. The words at the rally were used as a tool, intended to build and motivate students to take action. While the words may have motivated some students to action, the same words caused others to dismiss the message being presented.

Smart and concise language helps to get ideas across to others. It lends credibility and inspires trust. The presentation of the message at the Rally against Racism may have turned some students away. The presentation lacked the credibility needed to draw greater support.

Mutual respect *leads to change*

Only after we truly understand and respect others will we be able to make responsible and meaningful changes.

We all have some idea what the word respect means. Respect can be defined simply as "thoughtful regard for others." While some could argue what "thoughtful regard" means exactly, when it comes down to it, respect is something deserved by everyone and is a necessary part of change.

The Chancellor was confronted and questioned rather harshly after the Rally Against Racism. As much as it is the responsibility of the chancellor to know what is going on in the school, it is as much our responsibility to understand his perspective.

Respect is deserved by the student who was the object of the racial remarks but respect is also due to the person who made them. If we do not understand why this situation happened we can not make a positive change. What was said was wrong, but remember that disciplinary action was taken.

Disciplinary action was taken against this individual and if there is a problem with the disciplinary policy then it is the policy that needs to be dealt with. It is the policy that will be around the campus long after individuals have gone.

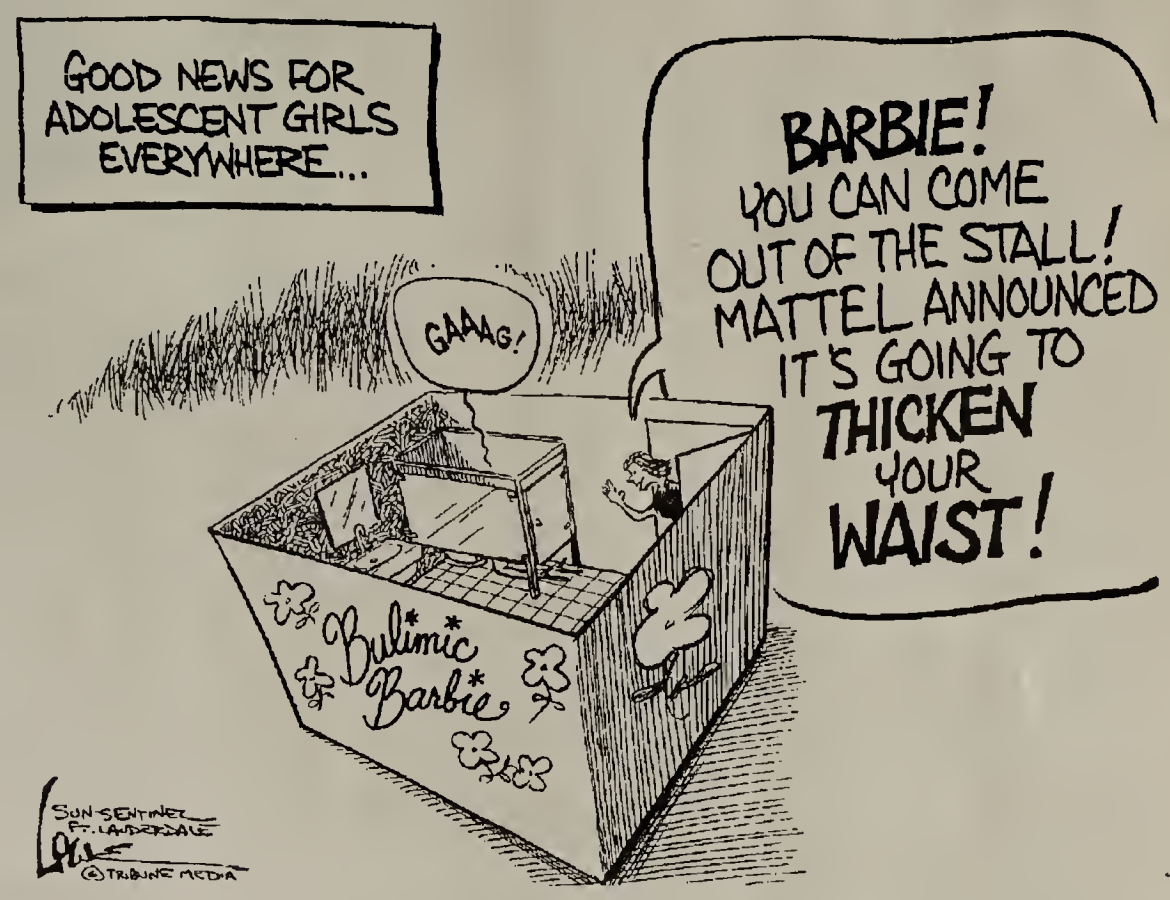
Even when we do not agree with others we need to respect them and understand where they are coming from and work together to make a change.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. Anonymous letters and commentaries will be considered for publication only if accompanied with the aforementioned specifications.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be typed (double spaced) or saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Wednesday before publication.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Holiday, fathers & forgiveness

Commentary by Mary Versteeg-Hall

Eating away at the Country Buffet restaurant last Saturday night, I was reminded with a jolt it is once again the Holiday Season. A woman, seated with a large number of her next of kin, rose and loudly proclaimed her ill feelings towards her father. "I hate you," she yelled, tears ebbing. "You were never there; you never cared. I hate you." She then stormed out of the restaurant, dragging her two shocked children behind her. Her father and other relatives sat with their heads downcast, faces red from embarrassment. They soon followed her lead, leaving their food laden plates behind. Oh, yes. It's that time again.

That time of year when we get to sit across the table and stare at people we're forced to be friendly to, people called relatives. And while some fortunate individuals visit relatives who cared for them on a daily basis during childhood years, most of us only live with a dream concocted out of the Norman Rockwell family archetype. For too many of us, we grew up in families bearing all of those lovely human flaws found in Shakespeare's "Hamlet." One of which is absent fathers, absent because of work demands, absent because of divorce, absent just because.

For example, in my family my father wasn't there for the majority of my childhood. My parents divorced when I was 4, I got some not too lovely step-parents, and so goes the Shakespearean tragedy. I guess I should be able to relate to the emotionally distraught daughter, who let it all out at the Country Buffet. Up until these past few months, I related too well to it. Because hate is a pet peeve of mine, I never chose to hate my father. I, however, believed all the dreams of having a close relationship with him were just that, dreams. And then fate stepped in: My father almost died. I was asked to come home by my grandmother who was afraid he might die. I made every excuse not to visit him: I've got school demands, a family, I don't have enough money. The truth – I didn't want to see him.

I felt cheated once again by him. How dare he be sick enough to die. He was messing everything up again. I was in the middle of my senior year. Why should I come home and jeopardize my graduation date for a holiday father, a father I only saw on special occasions? I was furious at being asked by anyone to even care. But what angered me the most was my numbness. I wanted to feel more, but it just wasn't there. Finally my grandmother ordered me to come home (thank God for grandmothers). So I got on the next plane, destination origins.

Two hours after I got off the plane, I walked into my father's hospital room. I didn't recognize him. This time, however, it was due to the fact that he had lost over 70 pounds, his skin hung from his shadow carved face. He was dying. So I sat down with my dad and talked to him for the first time without the interruption of his work, his friends, or his new wife. It was uncomfortable to say the least. I cried, he cried, and we locked eyes for more than a passing moment.

Three days later I was telling him goodbye. Still running a temperature of 102 degrees, he barely moved. I began to fuss at the nurses. I wanted them to do more. "Where's the doctor?" I complained. I wanted the doctors and nurses to fix my dad, before I returned to my new home in Indiana. My father saw my panic and looked at me with astonishment. "You love me," he muttered.

I took a chance, reached down and hugged his once strong neck, whispering,"Yes, dad, I do."

That was all it took to make me realize how lucky I am to be able to forgive and to love my father.

My new father is recovering now very well. Before his illness, there was always that thick air which seemed an impenetrable barrier between us, suffocating the love trying to grow. That thick air was blown away,with only cleamess remaining, a strong vision for our future. We agreed that we have at least 20 more good years together. And we're going to make them good.

Although family is often the bearer of great pain, especially around the holidays, and especially in the case of fathers who weren't there for us as kids, there is still hope for a relationship to take root. It may take a lot of tending, but I think my father and I would agree that it's worth the time. Perhaps I'm asking too much of others who've had holiday fathers. After all, each persons experience is unique. But all I can say is this year I look forward to telling my father Merry Christmas, because I will mean it.

Let your voice be heard
Write a letter to the editor

Stimulants

An Ounce of Prevention

Bob Hnida, RN

It's called a cuppa Joe, Java, brew, decaf, regular, unleaded, cafe, bean juice with cow extract, caffeine, grounds, high octane, and sometimes it's even called, coffee. One nurse I know has a mockup IV bag with coffee in it. Let's face it, we all need some sort of pick me up.

Coffee? Bad?

Is coffee bad for you? Is coffee good for you? It depends on the source of the research you are reading or the news channel you are watching. Some sources will tell you it is unhealthy while others state that it is a healthy and necessary beverage. I was reading one of Dr. Dean Ornish's books on heart disease and came across a section on caffeine. I would like to share with you some noteworthy items.

Cocaine? Bad? - Yes!

Cocaine is addressed as a potent stimulator that will constrict the coronary arteries (blood vessels of the heart) to such a degree that, even in healthy athletes without any arterial blockage, a fatal heart attack can occur. About four years ago I heard the news that a friend I played high school football with died suddenly. He was at a party drinking beer. Someone convinced him to try cocaine just one time. He was otherwise healthy but died of a massive heart attack. Don't think it can't happen to you. Back to caffeine. Caffeine does cause some vasoconstriction (artery narrowing) but to a much lesser degree than cocaine. Caffeine is a stimulant.

Caffeine was Frog's demise

When we need a boost most people reach for that cup of coffee. We feel it gives us the energy we need. But with any other stimulant it only gives us a boost for a short time. Like a rush of simple sugars found in cookies, cakes, and pies. We get a boost of energy but then our energy level falls lower than what it was before we had the stimulant. So how do we deal with that drop in energy? We reach for another stimulant, or, cup of coffee. Cigarettes are the same. We need that nicotine. When we feel a bit tired or run down we reach for another cigarette. All stimulants are addicting. In Anatomy and Physiology lab we experimented with live frogs. I was amazed to see what caffeine and nicotine did to a heart. The rate picked up quite astonishingly and eventually stopped. Have you ever done CPR on a frog? That wasn't too bad. But we had to shock it with the paddles. Fried it. End of experiment.

If you don't think you are addicted to any stimulants just try to do without it for a few days. I didn't have coffee during the last few days. Wow, what a headache. But even though stimulants increase the risk for heart disease, the link between caffeine and heart disease is not as strong as with the link between fat or cholesterol and heart disease. To illustrate how studies differ, a study done at the John Hopkins School of Medicine reported people develop heart problems who drink five or more cups of coffee a day. This finding was not supported by the Farmingham Heart Study. However, the link between smoking, cocaine, amphetamines and heart disease are not disputed. Caffeine and other stimulants can cause palpitations and irregular heart beats. Caffeine also stimulates the stress response and gives you a shorter fuse. Holding your temper in check is tougher than normal.

Moderation is key

As with all appetites, they should be satisfied in moderation. Up to two drinks of alcohol for men and one for women each day is considered moderation. More than this is detrimental. A couple of cups of coffee may be okay. A couple of pots of coffee may be a bit much. I can tell you that caffeine makes my blood pressure rise 15-20 points for both diastolic and systolic. So what is the answer?

Do all things in moderation and have a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable Christmas break. Always remember that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Critics fear court decision could effect student press

A federal judge in Kentucky has ruled that college administrators are "entitled to exercise reasonable control" over the content of some campuspublications.

While the decision only directly impacts colleges and universities in the U.S. District Court circuit covering eastern Kentucky, critics fear it could lead to a crackdown on other campus publications by school officials nationwide.

"This is going to have an effect on student media around the country," said Mark Goodman, executive director of the Student Press Law Center. "There's no way legitimate news coverage won't fall victim to this."

The recent decision violates students' First Amendment rights, Goodman said.

"[The judge] completely ignored that the Supreme Court has also said that colleges and universities are unique places where free expression should be protected," he said.

Students at Kentucky State University made similar arguments after school officials refused to distribute their yearbook. Officials said they disliked the book because it didn't include the school's colors or captions under several photographs, and failed to focus on university activities.

"If you allow school officials to use colors and captions as justificationf or taking books off the shelf, think of how easy it'll be for them to censor whatever they want for whatever reasons they want," Goodman said.

But Judge Joseph M. Hood said the university has a right to review the annual publication. In his decision, he cited the U.S. Supreme Court's 1988 ruling in Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, which states school officials have the right to censor articles in the student newspaper that are deemed contrary to the school's educational mission. Generally referred to today as "Hazelwood," the case and the ruling remain at the center of debate over student expression in secondary schools.

Student journalists at North Alabama University say they already fear their school's administrators will use Hood's decision to justify prior review of the campus newspaper.

"They want our faculty advisor to look at all copy before it goes out the door," said Tyler Greer, managing editor of the "Flor-Ala." "The potential for our advisor to receive pressure from people above her to take things out of the paper or make unnecessary changes is definitely there, and this case just makes their argument stronger."

– College Press Service

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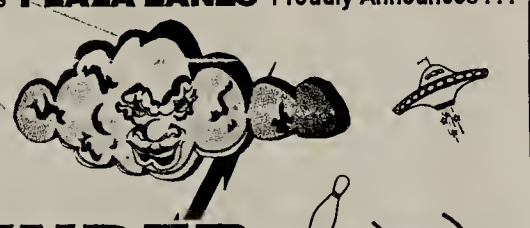

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Garth is at it again

Garth Brooks 'Sevens'

BY ERIC J. SCHWIER
Entertainment Writer

After a two year wait, we have it. The new Garth CD is here! With 14 new hits, the odds are this album will spawn at least 7 singles. Why seven? Well, "Sevens" is Garth's seventh album (not including "The Hits" and "Beyond the Season," his Christmas album), the year is 1997; and the seventh letter of the alphabet is G, as in Garth! He might as well keep up the trend and give us seven songs on the radio. That shouldn't be too hard to imagine after listening to the album.

Sung with Trisha Yearwood, the first single was a duet, the thing to do these days it seems. "In Another's Eyes" is a pretty song but not a great one. It has, though, two of the best country artists of the decade singing away, so you can't call it bad. The radio stations haven't played the song into the ground yet, so it is still enjoyable to listen to. The next release is better though. It sounds like the Garth we all know and love but comes closer to traditional country than normal. "Longneck Bottle" has a real "guy song" sound. He sings about sitting around the bar with his buddies and drinking too much. It makes you think of an old jukebox in a dusty old bar in Texas.

Then there is "Two Piña Coladas." After listening to it, I thought "Did Jimmy Buffet crash this party?" Of all the songs on the album, this one just doesn't quite fit in. It has an indescribable sound that is depressing. But on the other hand, listening to it makes you want to go down to Mexico and get drunk in some little coastal town. "Cowboy Cadillac" is the most traditional sounding song. This is also one of the songs with a good beat to dance to.

As always, there is at least one song with a message. "How You Ever Gonna Know" is one of the two message songs. The title sums it up perfectly. Basically the song brings up a question: How you ever gonna know what will happen if you don't listen to your heart and follow your dreams? In other words, if you let your dreams sit on a high shelf, where they can't be seen, then you might forget them. The message of the second of these two songs is if you follow your dreams, you will have to "Do What You Have To Do." Plain and simple like, if it is the right thing, then do it. Don't listen to others and be turned astray. Both of these songs sound good, but if you listen to the words, it won't matter what the music sounds like. The lyrics give you something to think about!

Check out these other albums by Garth Brooks

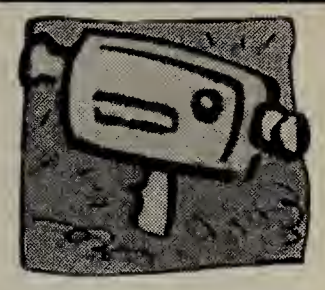
"No Fences"
"Ropin' The Wind"
"The Chase"
"In Pieces"
"Fresh Horses"
"Beyond The Season"
"The Hits"

Superstar Garth Brooks, known for his hats, has just released his latest album, 'Sevens.'

The saddest love song is about a man who goes to see his ex-lover get married and can't go through with watching the wedding. Once he throws his last momento of the relationship into the sea, he knows it will never be again. In "I Don't Have To Wonder Anymore" the emotion is expressed perfectly.

Garth's music is made for driving or listening. Most of his songs don't have the right rhythm for dancing. So, if you are looking for an album to dance to, this is not the one. It is not his best attempt, but it is also not the worst. If you are a hard core Garth fan, you already have this album; but, if you don't have it, put it on your Christmas list. It is worth having. However, there's no need to rush.

Video Rewind



Contact

Available on video from Warner Brothers

Reviewed by Susan Conners

Starring
Jodi Foster
Mathew McConaughey
Tom Skerrit
James Woods

Directed by:
Jodi Foster

In both acting and directing of Carl Sagan's "Contact," Jodi Foster performs magnificently, proving herself in her latest movie. Other cast members include James Woods, Matthew McConaughey and Tom Skerrit.

The story is about Elly Arroway, played by Foster, who is a woman scientist spending a great deal of her life finding answers to why her parents died when she was young. Arroway looks to the stars for a lifetime, eventually making a childhood dream of being an astronomer her career. She meets a would be Priest by the name of Palmer Joss, played by Matthew McConaughey, who loves her despite her extraterrestrial beliefs. Palmer tries to keep Elly safe and secure when she works on her space exploration, wanting her to slow down. McConaughey acts like a lost soul, though, because the love of his life is a vigorous working woman. David Drumlin, played by Tom Skerrit, is a govemment agent who oversees the events with Elly. He is skeptical of her fascination with extreme intergalactic thoughts. However, he eventually desires to be the one who goes up into space and tries to undermine Elly's dreams and hard work. His character does not believe women should be in space exploration.

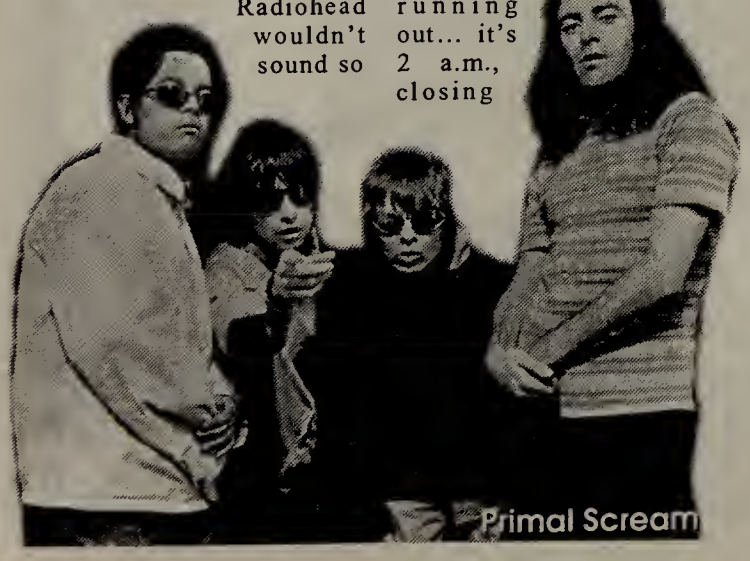
The movie is an excellent portrayal of what life in our future might be. This is what I liked about "Contact" because it gave me a sense of awe. I was glued to the movie from beginning to end. I did not like, however, the religious overtones of this movie because I think science and religion can work together for the welfare of our planet and universe. Overall, the movie is serious and thought provoking.

Barlo's Picks: The Best in music for '97

BY DAN BARLO
Entertainment Writer

As one Chronicle staff member so eloquently put it: "Damn British techno pop – where's the Clapton?" Actually, 1997 was for the most part a "British techno flop." Yes, it's quite safe to come out of the bunker now, "electronica" pretty much buckled under hype-overkill as the industry tried to lug it from the underground. The Chemical Brothers and the Prodigy did their best to be the firestarters, but couldn't manage the floodgates in the pivotal American market. Not too surprising, since mainstream Stateside listeners mostly ignored "electronica" back when it was called "house" and "techno;" but gobbled up its brain dead offshoot – "HI-NRG."

Fear not though: guitars, and for that matter, "organic" instruments, are still very much alive in 1997. And they can owe their resuscitation to electronica. Radiohead wouldn't sound so desolate without it and even die hard lo-fi rocker Tobin Sprout enlisted the aid of a prehistoric Casio synthesizer. If you like it not, there's always the umpteenth 'Stones release to cling to.



1.) **OK Computer**- Radiohead (Capitol). As for that bit I wrote a few months ago about this album expressing a some sense of perseverance in the face of life's pains – I was wrong. After wasting many a conscious hour listening to this CD, I realize that the bottom has definitely fallen out, the walls are a slippery slide and though the light at the end of the tunnel is not a train, it is the last streams of light as they are unceremoniously sucked into a black hole. This is "Notes from the Underground 2000:" a stark, high tech catharsis that revels in pain as much as it tries to fight it.

2.) **Curtains**- the Tindersticks (Polygram Records). "Vodka's running out... it's 2 a.m., closing time in Dresden..." The only bit of emptiness the 'Sticks are afraid of is the dry bottom of a cocktail glass. They don't have the blues mind you, they have the greys, them slate greys. Like a pack of lovelorn mods (they list their "outfitter" among the liner credits, but not their own names) on a non-stop, after hours pub crawl between Paris and Barcelona, they mope old skool style with a singer who croons like vintage Bryan Ferry, a full string ensemble, a lot of "boom-cha-boom" 007 rhythms and a sound that smolders like an ashtray full of spent Gauloises.

And the band that can nab Isabella Rossellini for a duet (on bonus track "Marriage Made in Heaven") is the embodiment of "classy." Can Miz Rossellini sing? Her voice is rather like Marilyn Monroe singing "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" – all breathy and giggly on champagne. But I'll take that over real singing any day. Infidelity and alcoholism never sounded so romantic...

3.) **Death to the Pixies**- the Pixies (Elektra). Harken back, if you will, to a time in the late '80s, when the Pixies were the only band in the whole Alpha Quadrant worth listening to, the only thing between talent and mousse metal. Timeless is Frank Black howling lines about UFO's and chino shirted girls with tattooed bosoms number'd 13; Joey Santiago's virtuoso possessed-surfer guitar; David Lovering, well, drumming; and last but not least, bass player Kim Deal, coolest rock chick alive. You might also remember them as the group that launched Nirvana and a million pale clones, only to break up in early '92, just when things were picking up. A fitting tribute: Long live the Pixies.

4.) **Moonflower Plastic**- Tobin Sprout (Matador). More *achingly* beautiful folk-rock by alumni of the Dayton, Ohio basement Guided by Voices. While original lead singer Robert Pollard tours with a counterfeit GbV (and a stunningly dull album-**Mag Earwhig!**), his songwriting foil/polite rival Sprout new solo album stays true to the old band's aesthetic.

5.) **In it for the Money**- Supergrass (Capitol). A virtual "White Album" of power pop, this Brit trio (Class of '95), proves to be more than a one shot fluke.

6.) **Year of the Iguana**- Iggy and the Stooges (compilation) (BOMP!). Greatest rock song of all time: "I Got A Right."

7.) **Dig Me Out**- Sleater-Kinney (Kill Rock Stars). After seeing the October cover of US magazine featuring the "new" clean cut Courtney Love, I think

See Best, Page 7

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Best

Continued from page 6

we've finally seen her true colors. The facade of the shrill, self-important, have-a-hemorrhage-already Henry Rollins post-estrogen treatments, has cracked. Barring her two defining moments (cameo in "Sid and Nancy" and as significant angster of Kurt Cobain), Love has always been an Andrean cheerleader at heart. Sure, being "rebellious" sold her a few discs, but then what's the diff between her and Madonna? You wanna real riot, girl?! Only three names should stand above the rest- PJ Harvey, Elastica (if they ever finish that damn second album) and this Washington trio.

8.) **Blur**- (EMI). Probably the worst thing you can say about this one is that it's a transition album...but they were certainly in need of some changes. Their **Modern Life is Rubbish** (1993) and **Parklife** (1994) were bursts of pure pop genius, but the "Imaproper-Britpopper" posings of **The Great Escape** (1995) tread a dangerous line on parody. Cue backlash, escape from limeylight to Iceland. Now they've reemerged, moody, and sounding like Pavement of all things. For the most part it's the same old Blur: snotty lyrics ("whoo-hoo!") and tight melodies, but with once taboo skuzzier-than-thou guitars (in '94, lead singer Damon Albarn boasted that Blur were out to "kill grunge") and absolutely no references to "sugary tea."

9.) **Portishead**- (Go!Beat). Portishead songwriter Geoff Barrows' last name is also another word for "ancient grave site." Very apt, that.

10.) **Bentley Rhythm Ace**- (Astralwerks). Mad scientist DJ's break out of asylum and slap together the post-post-modern dance party. An electronic dessert buffet of squiggly beats, Pac-Man FX, flutes, skidding motorcycles, hopping mad Who-like guitars (non-sampled) and completely unnecessary disco breaks topped with whipped cream and pure nonsense – side order of hash(ish) brownies. Sample song title: "Return of the Hardcore Jumble Carbootechnodisco Roadshow."

11.) **Homogenic**- Bjork. (Elektra) There are two kinds of people in this world: those who think that Bjork is from a different planet, and those who think that she's from a different dimension. Well hey, you're both right. The Icelandic elfess has her antennae tuned to some frequency long forgotten by modern humans. Weaving orchestral arrangements around beats crackle like glaciers and computer constructs parting curtains of static, but it's her most cohesive album yet. And as usual, the wildest sound is Bjork's voice sometimes purring, sometimes growlyode-laughing above it all.

12.) **Diaspora**- Natacha Atlas (MCA). In what may signal the next trend ready for the over-hype chopping block – an electronic "world music" revival (remember Enigma?) – Atlas sings sultry Middle Eastern folk music with killer hip-hop production.

13.) **Wu-Tang Forever**- Wu-Tang Clan (RCA). At two discs, **Forever** can sometimes feel a bit overlong, but their bold rhymes certify them as the only true heirs to Public Enemy.

14.) **Vanishing Point**- Primal Scream (Warner Bros.). If the apocalypse is near like Radiohead say it is, the 'Scream team just hope to be around after to light their doobies on the nearest piece of burning fall-out.

15.) **Be Here Now**- Oasis (Geffen). Another almost-masterpiece of somewhat bloated proportions from rock 'n' roll's answer to Bass Ale: starts off like something self-assured and different, but it's still just another way to get pisstupid drunk. Come on, be an import beer snob.

Dan Barlo can be reached at the chronicle office or via e-mail at barlodt@axp.calumet.purdue.edu

Lakers claw over the Eagles

BY J.B. LYLES
Sports Writer

It came down to seven seconds and three points separating overtime from a PUC Laker win. The Lakers, competing against the Eagles of Robert Morris College, were on the defense trying to hold on to the lead for a critical victory.

Eagles Forward Samantha Smith put up a last second desperation shot that caught nothing but air. The Lakers held on to a 69-66 victory.

"We barely came out of that game," Coach Hayes said after the game. We got some good performance from Spillers. She played good quality minutes and gave us that little push that we needed. Harper has taken it upon herself that the team needs to keep their focus, and she has done that."

Even before the game there were problems. Seniors Tabitha Beaumont and Jamie Muskin were late to the gym because of exams, so Hayes started Felecia Dixon and Amanda Stutler in place of the seniors. Beaumont and Muskin only played the second half.

However when tip off time rolled around, the action was fast and furious. RMC was on a 8-0 run before junior Christina Chandler shot a three pointer to put the Lakers on the board. When the first half ended, the Lakers had a six point advantage, 33-27.

In the second half, the services of Beaumont and Muskin were greatly needed. Beaumont helped the Lakers score eight points and create two steals, while Muskin gave the Lakers some defensive support. PUC had a 15 point lead before the Eagles started to make their move.

The Eagles scored 10 unanswered points behind the support of Tammy Pitts and Assimina Fuentes. But in the final minutes, Lakers Center Rita Harper took control of the situation and fired up her teammates to put some pressure on the Eagles. It, then, came down to the last seven seconds before a winner emerged.

With this win, the Lakers are now four and two. The Lakers upcoming schedule has four out of the six games on the road before Christmas. Also right after New Year's Day, on January 2 & 3, it's time for the Lady Lakers Classic.

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